



MILLAR WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS LTD.

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September 3, 2008

**VERIFIED STATEMENT
OF
GREG SIMPSON
On behalf of
MILLAR WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS LTD.**

On behalf of Millar Western, I, Greg Simpson, Director of Logistics, am pleased to provide a statement in support of the application filed with the Surface Transportation Board (STB) by Canadian National (CN) for approval of its proposed acquisition of a newly created subsidiary of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E), and of the petition filed by CN on August 14, 2008, for modification of the STB's procedural schedule.

As Director of Logistics, based in Millar Western's corporate head office in Edmonton, Alberta, I am responsible for conducting all logistics negotiations for the company, including those for rail, truck, container, vessel, intermodal, warehousing and other related services, and for managing all aspects of the transportation and distribution of our pulp and wood products.

Millar Western operates three sawmills and one pulp mill in the province, in addition to the woodlands operations supplying fibre to all four facilities. We produce 480 million board feet of lumber and 300,000 tonnes of pulp each year, transporting our products to destinations in North America and around the globe. Three of our four facilities are served by CN, and CN is our main carrier to the United States and through the Chicago gateway.

Millar Western understands that CN is seeking to acquire the EJ&E West Company. We support the acquisition, believing it should be beneficial to the shipping public, in allowing direct, single-line service, the movement of increased volumes via the vital Chicago/Illinois hub, improved transit times and car cycles, and increased asset utilization. We believe CN has the resources necessary for required investments in infrastructure, and that it has demonstrated through previous acquisitions its capacity to effect a smooth integration of EJ&E's assets into the CN system. In that the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E subsidiary promises to be of significant benefit to shippers, Millar Western strongly supports CN's application to the STB.

The specific purpose of this letter, however, is to express our support for CN's August 14, 2008, petition for modification of the procedural schedule, which would allow the STB to reach a final decision on the merits of CN's proposed transaction, subject to maintenance of the environmental status quo, pending completion of the STB's environmental review.

We firmly believe that the STB should conduct a thorough environmental review of the transaction. At the same time, we believe allowing the self-serving interests of a few affluent suburban communities to see the proposed transaction defeated, before the STB can rule on its merits, will do a great disservice not only to the environmental interests of populous urban areas, but also to the commercial interests of the many regional, national and international stakeholders counting on the critical transportation benefits promised by the transaction.

We believe CN's August 14 proposal would allow for thorough review of both environmental impacts and competition issues, and poses no threat either to the environment or to the STB's authority to protect it. We strongly urge the STB to support the CN petition, in the best interests of the United States' global trade.

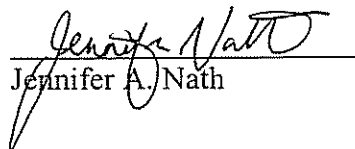
I, Greg Simpson, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this verified statement. Executed on September 3, 2008.



Greg Simpson, Director of Logistics

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this 3rd day of September, 2008, served the foregoing letter of Greg Simpson, Director of Logistics, Millar Western Forest Products, Ltd., upon all known parties of record in this proceeding by causing a copy to be sent to each by first-class mail or a more expeditious method.


Jennifer A. Nath